THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Government of India have signed the Inter-governmental Agreement on Trans Asian Railway. The Agreement defines and lists the railway lines of international importance. It does not divide Trans Asian Railway network into any specific three corridors.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Proposal for Railway division in Kerala

710. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the competent authority of Kerala had submitted resentments after the year 2005 against incorporating the railway stations situated in Kerala as a part of the railway divisions of other States;

(b) if so, the details including the status of above resentment;

(c) whether there is any proposal/suggestion for a railway division with divisional office located at Kerala;

(d) if so, the details including the status of above proposal; and

(e) if not, the reasons in detail for not forming a railway division with divisional office located in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) Yes, Sir. Apprehensions have been raised by Very Important Persons (VIPs) including the Chief Minister of Kerala over the jurisdiction of proposed Salem Division.

(b) The Chief Ministers of Kerala and Tamilnadu have been requested for a joint meeting to solve the issues amicably.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

New Train between Bangalore and Visakhapatnam

711. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce a new train between Bangalore and Visakhapatnam *via* Secunderabad;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Railways have not met passenger needs on this Sector connecting three important cities of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka;

(c) what short-term measures will be taken to meet the demand for accommodation on the Bangalore-Secunderabad-Visakhapatnam Sector; and

(d) the details of interim steps in this regard?